

Natural Gas Orders - Issued 1997

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT FILED BY DARRELL SEEMAN, SIOUX FALLS, SD, AGAINST MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY REGARDING TRANSFERRING UNPAID BALANCES TO HIS ACCOUNT)	ORDER FINDING PROBABLE CAUSE AND NOTICE REQUIRING ANSWER
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On October 10, 1997, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a complaint filed by Darrell Seeman, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, against MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican) regarding transferring unpaid balances to Mr. Seeman's business and residential accounts. According to the complaint, "MidAmerican transferred gas bills over on two rental properties owned by myself and others to myself at my business address then transferred the bills to my home account, 1808 Edgewood Road." Mr. Seeman is asking the Commission "to have the gas turned back on and to not let the utility transfer bills to my home account."

Pursuant to SDCL 49-34A-4 and ARSD 20:10:01:08.01, 20:10:01:09, 20:10:01:10, and 20:10:01:11.01, if a complaint cannot be settled without formal action, the Commission shall determine if the complaint shows probable cause of an unlawful or unreasonable act, rate, practice or omission to go forward with the complaint and serve it upon MidAmerican.

On October 28, 1997, a regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered the complaint. Mr. Seeman explained the complaint. Karen Huizenga, a representative of MidAmerican, presented MidAmerican's position.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A-2, 49-34A-4, and ARSD 20:10:01:08.01 and 20:10:01:09. The Commission voted unanimously to find probable cause, it is therefore,

ORDERED that pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:09, the Commission finds that there is probable cause of an unlawful or unreasonable act, rate, practice or omission and the complaint shall be forwarded to MidAmerican and MidAmerican shall file with the Commission its answer in writing within twenty (20) days of service of this order.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 3rd day of November, 1997.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.

By: _____

Date: _____

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

PAM NELSON, Commissioner

LASKA SCHOENFELDER,
Commissioner

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